

Legislative Update

State Rep. Danny Ford
Bold Action Needed In Stem Economic Downturn
 Making predictions about our state's economy is pretty much like forecasting the weather. It is difficult to predict what the future will bring, but recent trends announced by some of America's largest companies signal an economic downturn that is continuing to erode consumer confidence in the economy. It is consumer confidence that fuels our economy, or lack of such that brings about recession.

Like much of the nation, Kentucky has been hit by a triple whammy. First, stock prices began to decline about a year ago. Throughout much of the '80's and '90's stock prices climbed to what many economists believed were unsustainably levels. Although Kentucky's own companies on the stock market have seen their stocks remain relatively stable, Kentucky stockholders have taken the hit to their pocketbooks.

Hopefully, the declines we are now witnessing are more of a correction to bring prices back to more realistic levels than an indication of recession. Second, high-energy prices for gasoline and home heating oil have soared, record low temperatures this winter, have had a drastic impact on the budgets of many Americans. Third, the Federal Reserve Board's delay in cutting interest rates has slowed the economy and caused job losses in manufacturing and construction industries.

Our energy problems have worsened in recent years because of environmental restrictions on drilling for oil and gas, and restrictions on burning coal. Everyone wants a clean environment but if environmental restrictions drive the price of natural

gas, propane and other heating fuels so high that people resort to massive wood burning and cutting down forests, what have we accomplished? A major tenet of the policy of the Federal Energy Commission in recent years was to ignore the impending energy crisis as electrical utilities gobbled up the supply of natural gas to generate electricity.

That's the bad news. The good news is that bold actions are being planned to confront these problems. David C. Bozinger, Secretary of the Bush Administration is looking at plans to open up millions of acres that can be explored for oil and natural gas. Further, recent environmental regulations that have restricted the use of coal

during the economies of states like Kentucky will be under scrutiny for review and possible changes. Oil and gas can be produced without harming the environment and new coal burning technologies can significantly cut smog-causing emissions. Allowing oil and gas exploration, and making coal a viable energy resource solves two problems - achieving energy independence from the Arab nations and reducing high energy prices.

The second bold action being planned by the Bush Administration is the proposed \$1.3 trillion tax cut. Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan and even a number of Congressional Democrats are now agreeing that the time is right for a federal tax cut. Additional dollars in the hands of consumers would spur spending and restore the consumer confidence so necessary to economic growth.

As I've mentioned before, the Kentucky General Assembly will go back into session on February 6. Hopefully, many of the lessons learned by states like California with the drastic energy crisis they are facing will not be lost in Kentucky lawmakers as we deal with such issues as electricity deregulation. If you have thoughts about these or other issues, please call me anytime or leave a message on the toll-free legislative message line at 1-800-372-7381.

"District Court"

(Cont. from B-1)

fine; Contempt of court (standstill), 10 days in jail to serve 7 balance conditionally discharged one year.

Shawn P. Davidson: No operator license, \$100 fine and costs, and 10 days in jail/conditionally discharged one year; Resisting Arrest, 30 days in jail/conditionally discharged one year; Contempt of court (standstill), found guilty of contempt for failure to appear 10 days in jail to serve 7.

Daniel L. Ray: Speeding, paid \$104.50 fine and costs.

Charles Mathew, Jr.: License not in possession, \$25 fine and costs/suspend fine.

Gary L. Abner: Fines due, \$502.85, 30 days in jail/bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

Timothy W. Adams: Criminal trespass, \$25 fine and costs/suspend fine.

Danny Bond: Alcohol intoxication, \$25 fine and costs.

Danny Avery Bond: Fines due, \$547.85, found guilty of contempt for failure to appear or pay fine 45 days in jail.

Shirley L. Burries: Speeding and other charges, license suspended for failure to appear.

Betsy A. Carroll: Alcohol intoxication, bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

James L. Cochran: Speeding, \$30 fine and costs.

Chop Cole: Speeding and other charges, license suspended for failure to appear.

Scottie K. Cook: Speeding and other charges, license suspended for failure to appear.

Wilma Iris Cope: Harassing communications, \$100 fine and costs and 10 days in jail/conditionally discharged one year.

Marlene M. Engle: Obstructed windshield prohibit and other charges, license suspended for failure to appear.

George H. Franks: Operating motor vehicle under influence alcohol; \$200 fine and costs, \$250 service fee, \$10 victim compensation fund, 30 day operators license suspension.

Roy K. Hacker: Possession of controlled substance, criminal summons issued.

Steven W. Hagan: Improper passing, license suspended for failure to appear.

Harold B. Jamison: Public intoxication, \$25 fine and costs; Prescription in improper container, \$100 fine.

William S. Johnson: Criminal trespassing, \$25 fine and costs/suspend fine.

Clifford G. Kitzmiller: Fines due, \$1,013.30, found in contempt in absentia 50 days in jail/bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

Marvin Lunsford, Jr.: Fines due, \$106.85, found in contempt in absentia 4 days in jail/bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

Charles Marlow, Jr.: Operating on suspended license, \$25 fine and costs.

Douglas W. Meadows: Fines due, \$1,230.50, found in contempt in absentia 50 days in jail/bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

Evelyn B. Mitchell: Speeding, state traffic school authorized on payment of costs only; Failure to wear seatbelt, \$25 fine and costs.

Joshua M. Newby: Operating

motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, \$200 fine and costs, \$250 service fee; \$10 victim compensation fund, 90 day operator's license suspension.

Anthony L. Powell: Fines due, \$461, found in contempt in absentia 25 days in lieu of fines/bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

Casey Renner: Theft by deception, bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

Oscar B. Reynolds: Speeding, paid \$68.50 costs.

Randolph Richardson, III: Speeding and No operator's license, license suspended for failure to appear.

William O. Seale: Reckless driving, state traffic school authorized on payment of costs.

Scott B. Stone: Fines due, \$217.35, found in contempt in absentia 10 days in jail/bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

Terry L. Smith: Fines due, \$526, found in contempt in absentia 30 days in jail/bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

Steven W. Walker: Fines due, \$540.50, found in contempt in absentia 30 days in jail/bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

Danny Avery Bond: Alcohol intoxication, \$25 fine and costs.

William S. Bourn: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

David C. Bozinger: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

William E. Burton: Speeding and Failure to wear seatbelt, license suspended for failure to appear.

Russell E. Garrett: Speeding, paid \$20 fine and \$74.50 costs.

Nathan L. Sloan: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

James E. Sparks: Speeding, state traffic school authorized on payment of costs only.

Kelly B. Steele: Speeding, paid \$28 fine and costs.

Brandy R. Oakes: Defective equipment, paid.

Anthony W. Skidmore: Speeding, state traffic school authorized on payment of costs.

Melissa C. Burton: Speeding, paid \$43.50 (short \$7.35) and requested state traffic school issue summons.

Amy L. Gagne: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

Edwin J. Mahaffey, II: Defective equipment, \$25 fine and costs.

Robert D. Mounce: Speeding, \$20 fine and costs.

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Farm News

By: Tom Mills
 Phase I Tobacco Forum

The Rockcastle County Phase I Tobacco Agriculture, Development Council will hold a public forum on Monday, February 5, 2001 at 7:30 pm in the Rockcastle County High School - vocational agriculture classroom.

This forum will allow public input in developing a county plan to invest in tobacco. Farmers. These wishing to address the council must register by noon, February 5th, by calling 256-2403. To allow for an orderly forum, those addressing the council with ideas are asked to limit their comments to 5 minutes.

Agriculture Development Council members are preparing a plan to submit for state approval. Committee members are meeting with farm organizations throughout the county. Open council meetings are also held the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Rockcastle County Extension Service located at 1050 West Main St.

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93 Ford Escort SW LX, auto, air, rebuilt title	\$1995
94 Pontiac Grand Am, 4 dr., 4 cyl, auto, air, CD	\$3995
93 Chev. Caprice Classic, 4 dr., auto, air, V8	\$5995
Eagle Corports -	
18x21 Double	\$4995
12x21 Single	\$5995

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NEW WAY BOOT SHOP

Vote "Yes" for Your Future



For tobacco farmers, the choice is clear: Vote "yes" February 12-16 to retain the Burley Tobacco Price Support Program, a program that assures economic benefits for our farmers and farming families.

☒ **Vote "Yes" for ...**
Fair and Guaranteed Pricing
Protection for Family Farms and Rural Communities
Independence for You and Your Farm Business

For over 60 years, the Burley Tobacco Price Support Program has worked well for all of us. The Tobacco Program has provided livelihoods for thousands of farmers and economic stability for thousands of rural communities. Whether you are contracting or not, the Price Support Program is vital to the prosperity of your farming business. Without grading and price supports, only the buyers prosper. Your vote can ensure a prosperous and strong future for you and your fellow farmers.

Your Vote. Your Future.
 The Tobacco Referendum Vote will be February 12-16. Vote "yes" to retain the Burley Tobacco Price Support Program.

If you have questions, or would like to give us your comments, please call us at 1-859-252-3561, or visit our web site at www.burleytobacco.com

BURLEY TOBACCO GROWERS
www.burleytobacco.com